

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
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AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E. O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJ: QADHAFI IN ALGIERS

1. LIBYAN LEADER MU'AMMAR QUADHAFI ARRIVED IN ALGIERS LATE AFTER-
NOON OF MAY 30 ON LESS THAN 24-HOURS' NOTICE FOR VISIT OF "SEVERAL
DAYS" TO ALGERIA. ACCOMPANYING HIM WERE RCC MEMBER KHUWAYLDI HUM-
AYDI, FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY ALI TURAYKI, INDUSTRY SECRETARY
JAD ALLAH 'AZZUZ TALHI, AND PLANNING AFFAIRS SECRETARY MUSA ABU
FURAYWAH.

2. PRESS HAS HAD LITTLE LIGHT TO SHED ON PURPOSE OF VISIT, ALTHOUGH
EDITORIALS HAVE HIGHLIGHTED OCCASION FOR "TWO REVOLUTIONS" TO CON-
CERT THEIR VIEWS ON BILATERAL, MIDDLE EASTERN, AND AFRICAN PRO-
BLEMS AND PROMOTE "PEOPLES' UNITY" AS FIRST STEP TO "TRUE ARAB
UNITY."

3. PROGRAM OF FIRST FOUR DAYS HAS GIVEN BOUMEDIENE AND QADHAFI OPP-
ORTUNITY FOR UNUSUAL DEGREE OF PUBLIC EXPOSURE AND PRIVATE DISCUSSION
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IMMEDIATELY AFTER QADHAFI'S ARRIVAL, TWO LEADERS DROVE THROUGH DOWN-
TOWN ALGIERS IN OPEN CAR, STOPPING TO "WALKABOUT" AT LEAST TWICE
AMIDST DENSE CROWDS CHANTING "NO TO ARAB REACTION" AND "NO TO
COLONIAL RECONQUESTS" IN WELCOME. GOA HAD RELEASED FACTORY AND
OFFICE WORKERS EARLY TO SWELL CROWDS, AND ONE DOORMAN TURNED WESTERN
BUSINESSMEN AWAY FROM NATIONAL COMPANY OFFICES WITH OBSERVATION

"ILS SONT TOUS PARTIS FAIRE CLAQUE-CLAQUE." BOUMEDIENE HOSTED UNUSUALLY LARGE DINNER FOR QADHAFI EVEING OF MAY 31, INVITING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF REVOLUTION, CABINET, AND NATIONAL POPULAR ASSEMBLY, AS WELL AS SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS, FLN OFFICIALS, AND CHIEFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. BOUMEDIENE AND QADHAFI ATTENDED FRIDAY PRAYER TOGETHER JUNE 2, AT NEO-MOORISH EL-BIAR MOSQUE ON PLACE KENNEDY, AND QADHAFI WAS SEEN TO PLAY TOURIST, GAWKING UNABASHEDLY AT ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS OF BUILDING.

4. PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THREE ROUNDS OF SUBSTANTIVE TALKS TO DATE, WITH LIBYAN DELEGATION AS ABOVE AND ALGERIAN DELEGATION CONSISTING OF BOUMEDIENE, FLN PARTY CHIEF YAHIAOUI, INTERIOR MINISTER ABDELGHANI, AGRICULTURE MINISTER TAYEBI LARBI, TRANSPORT MINISTER DRAIA (ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF REVOLUTION), AND MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO AHMED TALEB IBRAHIMI. ALGERIAN JOURNALISTS CLOSE TO TALKS TELL US THESE HAVE BEEN VERY INTENSIVE AND PURPOSEFUL, BUT THEY CAN SHED NO LIGHT AS YET ON WHAT IMPORTANT DECISIONS MAY EMERGE.

5. MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS, CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL AFFRICAN AFFAIRS, AND BILATERAL RELATIONS ARE ALL CLEAR CANDIDATES FOR AGENDA. ABU IYAD OF FATAH, IBRAHIM QULAYLAT OF LEBANESE LEFTIST "AL-MURABITUN", AND -- ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS -- PFLP DELEGATION ARE ALL IN TOWN, AND MEANS OF INCREASING PRESSURE ON SADAT AND OTHER MODERATE ARAB LEADERS ARE SURE TO FIGURE IN DISCUSSIONS. PRESS EDITORIALS HAVE BEEN RAILING AGAINST OBSTACLES TO "TRUE ARABISM" FOR SOME DAYS, AND BOTH "CAPITULATORY ARABISM" OF SADAT AND "REACTIONARY ARABISM" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF UNNAMED OIL-RICH SHEIKHS HAVE COME UNDER HEAVY FIRE.

6. INTERVENTION OF FRENCH JAGUARS IN BOTH CHAD AND SAHARA HAS FED ADDITIONAL PRESS BLASTS AGAINST "COLONIALIST ATTEMPTS TO RECAPTURE AFRICA", WITH MEETING OF WESTERN POWERS SCHEDULED FOR PARIS IN FOREFRONT OF THESE. BOUMEDIENE AND QADHAFI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY MAKE USUAL STATEMENTS ON SUBJECT, BUT MORE INTERESTING WILL BE THEIR STATEMENTS, IF ANY, ON SAHARA. ALGERIAN AND LIBYAN VIEWS DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY ON THIS ISSUE, AND BOUMEDIENE WILL TRY HIS BEST TO GET QADHAFI TO MOVE IN HIS DIRECTION, PERHAPS OFFERING IN EXCHANGE TO ADOPT MORE EXTREME POSITION WITHIN STEADFASTNESS FRONT.

7. ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WILL ASLO RECEIVE THEIR DUE, IF ONLY FOR COSMETIC REASONS -- I.E. TO PROMOTE "PEOPLES' UNITY." COMPOSITIONS OF DELEGATIONS INDICATE LIKELY IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESS HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED SERIES OF MEASURES AGREED IN JUNE 1 MEETING BETWEEN GOA MINISTER OF COMMERCE YALA AND LIBYAN PLANNING AFFAIRS SECRETARY FURAYWAH. THESE INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR 1978, INAUGURATION OF MIXED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, JOINT STUDIES OF WATER RESOURCES IN BORDER AREAS, DIRECT TELEPHONE LINK BETWEEN ALGIERS AND TRIPOLI, CREATION OF MIXED LAND TRANSPORT COMPANY AKIN TO EXISTING

MIXED MARITIME TRANSPORT COMPANY, CREATION OF MIXED COMPANIES FOR JOINT EXPLORATION AND EXPLITATION OF HYDROCARBONS, AND INCREASED EXCHANGES OF EXPERTS AND TRAINEES IN ALL SECTORS.

8. BEYOND THESE SPECIFIC ISSUES, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT LIBYAN-ALGERIAN SUMMIT IS MEANT TO END LONG-STANDING RUMORS THAT ALL IS NOT RIGHT BETWEEN BOUMEDIENE AND QADHAFI. FROM ALGERIAN POINT OF VIEW, THIS WOULD HAVE IMPORTANT EFFECT OF DEMONSTRATING THAT ALGERIA DOES NOT STAND ALONE IN ITS POSITIONS. HAYNES

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